

CORNHUSKER ITEMS

News of All Kinds Gathered From Various Points Throughout Nebraska.

OF INTEREST TO ALL READERS

Columbus citizens are jubilant over a road building bargain entered into between Platte county and the state. The original deal was a rural paving project extending from Columbus across the valley of the Loup river, which is subject to overflow. The original cost of the project was to be \$150,000, of which the state was to pay \$80,000. Platte county being unable to raise the funds, three-fourths of a mile of the road was cut off, cutting the expenses to about \$85,000. But the expense was all cut off. Platte county end, the state being still expected to pay \$80,000 to Platte county's \$25,000.

The death of former governor Silas A. Holcomb in Bellingham, Wash., recalls that in the past five years seven judges and former judges of the Nebraska supreme court have passed away. They are: Conrad Hellenbeck, January 21, 1915; Manoah B. Reese, September 28, 1917; Francis G. Hamer, August 10, 1918; Thomas O. C. Harrison, May 29, 1919; Samuel H. Sedgewick, December 25, 1919; Albert J. Cornish, April 18, 1920; Silas A. Holcomb, April 25, 1920.

The first genuine action by the government to curb bootlegging and profiteering in Nebraska, occurred at Omaha last week when agents of the Department of Justice, after a hasty investigation, seized 168,000 pounds of sugar stored in two warehouses by retail dealers. More raids on sugar hoarders in Omaha and other cities in the state are expected, and the guilty are to be prosecuted, government officials at Omaha state.

A movement is under way to bring one of the regional tractor demonstrations and indoor shows of the National Implement and Vehicle association to Omaha for this year. The outdoor show would be held sometime in July, probably, and the indoor exhibit in February or March of 1921.

The two Nebraska synods of the Lutheran church and the advisory committee of Midland college have set aside May 23 as "Midland College Day," when sermons will be devoted to the school and a drive made for funds and students.

Funeral services over the remains of Silas A. Holcomb, former governor of Nebraska, member of the state supreme court and state board of control, were held at Broken Bow. Judge Holcomb died at the home of a daughter at Bellingham, Wash. He was 62 years old.

It is reported that the Sinclair Oil and Refining company, the largest independent company in the country, is seriously considering Alliance as the site for one of the largest refineries in the west, to care for its large production in Wyoming.

It is reported that Second Lieutenant J. T. Logan of Seward, former finance officer of Camp Knox, Louisville, Ky., who disappeared four months ago, was approximately worth \$12,000 in his accounts when he left. No trace of him has been found.

Mrs. C. C. Ryan of Grand Island, federal fair price commissioner for Nebraska, has re-established the war time licensing system for sugar distribution in an effort to cope with the present situation.

A state wide drive for funds to erect an auditorium on the campus of the state university at Lincoln to the memory of the soldier and sailor dead of the war will be launched in Nebraska on June 6.

Several hundred delegates are expected to attend the first convention of the Nebraska League of Women Voters, which will be held in Omaha in June.

Funds for a \$3,000 budget are being asked business men of Tecumseh by the finance committee of the Tecumseh Community club.

At the end of last week Baptists were leading all other denominations in the interchurch campaign for funds in Nebraska.

G. H. Miller of Blue Springs has collected bounty on 10 wolf skins from the county clerk at Beatrice.

Sanborn county banks announced that hereafter payments of 5 per cent will be made on time deposits.

The twenty-story American State Bank building to be erected at Omaha will be the largest structure between Chicago and Seattle, it is said.

Thus far this year 2,130 motor vehicle licenses have been issued to Nebraska county automobile owners. It is estimated that more than \$25,000 has been taken in from this source.

John O'Connor, county assessor of Dodge county, has adopted a method of advertising assessment returns in the newspapers in order to catch the tax shirker and equalize the tax burden.

Farmers of Gage county are planning to sow a large acreage of sugar cane this season.

Governor McKelvie has issued a proclamation calling upon the people of Nebraska to observe Monday, May 9, as "Mother's Day."

Hall county sugar beet growers were given a pleasant surprise the other day when they received a letter from the American Beet Sugar company enclosing a \$1 per ton bonus for all beets they raised during the last season. There was no obligation on the part of the sugar company to grant this bonus.

A considerable stir has been created in Lincoln and especially among state officials over Lieutenant Governor Barrows' pardoning Ray Sandovich, 20 of Lincoln, sentenced to the state penitentiary for two years on June 10, 1918, for receiving stolen automobiles. Barrows' action was caused, it is said, because the prisoner turned state's evidence, for which he was promised clemency by the prosecuting attorney and which was denied by the district judge who sentenced him. Governor McKelvie was in Chicago at the time and Barrows was acting governor.

A movement is well under way in Nebraska to erect on the campus of the State University at Lincoln a \$1,000,000 structure as a state memorial to the 60,000 Nebraska soldiers who fought in the world war, veterans of the civil war, the Spanish-American and the Mexican wars and those who battled the Indians in the early days.

Citizens of Gretna have asked the State Railway commission for an order requiring the Burlington to move its depot on the opposite side of the track to the side nearer the town, claiming that such a move would eliminate danger of accidents, many of which have occurred at the road crossing.

Following the announcement that Harry Whiteside had been appointed chief of the paid fire department at Beatrice four members of the department quit their jobs because they thought that another man should have been named chief. The places of the striking firemen were soon filled.

Miss Emma Meservy of Fremont who was tied for the democratic nomination for state representative with Peter J. Bauer, a farmer, retains the distinction of being Nebraska's first woman candidate for the place. The nomination was decided by a draw, Miss Meservy winning.

An extensive and elaborate program has been arranged for the forty-fourth annual encampment of the Nebraska G. A. R. Ladies of the G. A. R. W. R. C. and Sons and Daughters of Veterans to be held at Fremont, May 17 to 19.

The Nebraska delegation to the republican national convention at Chicago expects that headquarters room for a week will cost \$800 and that the individual delegates will have to pay from \$15 to \$25 a night for their sleeping accommodations.

The first road building camp for penitentiary prisoners has been opened by the state one mile west of Tecumseh. Seventeen prisoners are in the camp and others will be set to work later in Seward county and at Table Rock.

A report issued by W. E. Meyers, receiver of the Farmers' State bank, at Halsey, shows that claims approved, due to depositors and preferred creditors amount to \$36,490.23, all of which must be made good by the state.

The Lincoln County Agricultural association is moving the fair buildings over to the grounds leased by the association at North Platte. They are planning to double their grandstand seating capacity.

The state of Nebraska has purchased sixty-three acres of gravel land along the Platte river near Ashland, in order to be in a position to furnish its own gravel and sand for road work.

Complaints have been received by Governor McKelvie from a number of western Nebraska farmers that losses occurring against the state hail insurance department have not yet been paid.

The American legion band at Lincoln, sixty strong, voted to affiliate with the musicians' protective union of the city and become a strictly union organization.

All Nebraska posts of the American Legion are to take an active part in the nation-wide campaign May 17 to 22 to add 1,000,000 new members to the organization.

A rate of one and one-third fare has been obtained by the G. A. R. over all railroads for the Grand Army encampment which meets in Fremont May 17, 18 and 19.

Four officers on the Omaha police force have been stripped of their badges and discharged for improper conduct in the past three weeks.

Commissioners of Madison county have appropriated \$5,000 for life expenses for Charles Young in a Louisiana leper colony.

A great deal of damage was done at Waterloo when the Elkhorn river overflowed last week and flooded a part of the town.

Telephone operators and relief girls in Stromsburg went on a strike last week for increased pay.

Mrs. Elizabeth Douglass, 94 years old, of Geneva, is probably the oldest woman voter in Nebraska to cast a vote at the recent primary election. She went to the polls unassisted.

Delayed by the spring rains in their planting of seed potatoes, Holt county farmers are guarding their cellars with shotguns against possible thefts, according to reports from O'Neill.

According to railroad crop reports Nebraska soil is in splendid condition for planting, and the winter wheat is practically made, providing the usual warm weather follows.

The annual conference for teachers and those interested in vocational education will be held at the university state farm, Lincoln, May 31 to June 5.

County roads are high impassable in eastern as well as western Nebraska, because of the continued rains, reports say.

Attorneys for O. W. Langley of Cortland, found guilty of murder in the second degree for slaying Justice Chris Pfeiffer and sentenced to 20 years in the Nebraska penitentiary, have dropped the case and Langley must serve his sentence.

AMERICA TENDERED MANDATE

Uncle Sam Asked By Allies to Take Charge of Armenia—To Establish Trade With Russia.

San Remo, Italy.—The council of allied premiers, before adjournment on April 23, tendered the mandate over Armenia to the United States. If that nation refuses, the council will ask President Wilson to determine the boundaries of the new nation, by deciding whether the Ezeram district shall go to Armenia or remain Turkish.

The council decided to award the mandates over Palestine and Mesopotamia to Great Britain and Syria to France. Great Britain and France will settle the borders of Syria and Palestine.

The council has decided to take up the matter of trading with Russia again, and will allow entrance of a Russian mission into allied countries to discuss the matter.

The San Remo conference came to an end with apparently complete accord.

The council adopted the Franco-British declaration with regard to Germany, after inserting a clause declaring its readiness to take all measures, even the occupation of additional German territory, if necessary, to assure the carrying out of the Treaty of Versailles. This action closed the widest breach in Franco-British relations that has existed since the outbreak of the great war in 1914, and which, British statesmen admitted, threatened the existence of the entente.

Former Nebraska Governor Dead.

Broken Bow, Neb.—Silas Alexander Holcomb, former governor and supreme judge of Nebraska, died at Bellingham, Wash., according to word received here. He was a resident of Broken Bow for many years and was well known throughout the state. He was active in public life until a year ago. He was judge of Cass county from 1891 to 1894. In 1894 he was elected governor of Nebraska by the populist and democratic parties. He was governor for four years. From 1900 to 1908 he was justice of the supreme court of Nebraska. He was 62 years old.

Living Costs Doubled.

Washington, D. C.—Cost of living figures in fourteen American cities, obtained by the department of labor for December, 1919, as compared with December 1, 1914, put Detroit at the top of the list with an increase of 108 per cent.

Norfolk, Va., ranked second with 107 per cent, while Portland, Me., took first honors by trailing the list with a percentage of 91½. Increases for other cities were:

Boston, 92; New York, 103; Philadelphia, 96; Baltimore, 98; Savannah, Ga., 98; Jacksonville, Fla., 102; Mobile, Ala., 94; Houston, 101; Chicago, 100; Cleveland, 95; Buffalo, 102.

Farmer and Family Slain.

Turtle Lake, N. D.—Eight persons were found dead at the farm home of Jacob Wolf, three miles north of here, victims in a mysterious tragedy which has shocked the entire state. The dead:

Jacob Wolf and his wife, their five daughters, Bertha, aged 13; Edna 8; Mary 10; Lydia 5, and Martha 4, and Jake Hofer, 13 years old, who was employed on the farm.

Only one member of the family escaped, Emma, 8 months old. She is being cared for by the neighbors. She is suffering from a severe cold. When found she was in a cradle beside an open window.

TORNADO KILLS FIVE.

Oklahoma Country Side Swept By Death Dealing Twister.

Muskogee, Okla.—Five persons are known to have been killed and at least eight badly hurt in a tornado which swept the countryside north of Chelsea just before dark last Sunday night.

The storm originated about one mile north of that town and swept west and north. With the exception of one man, all of the known dead are farmers who were killed when their homes were destroyed.

Soldier Relief Bill Suspended.

Washington, D. C.—House republicans abandoned plans for passing the soldier relief legislation and adjourned their party conference without setting a date for action. Wide differences of opinion developed in the conference, the opposition centering principally against a sales tax to raise part of the \$1,080,000,000 needed for carrying out provisions of the bill.

Sugar From Mexico.

Nogales, Ariz.—Three hundred carloads of Mexican sugar refined in Sonora will be released for sale in the United States, as the result of the revolution in Sonora, it was announced here. The sugar has been sent into the United States under bond, but was returned to Mexico by order of President Carranza. It is now being allowed to again return to the United States.

Start Paper Inquiry.

Washington, D. C.—Congressional investigation of the print paper shortage has been started by the subcommittee of the senate committee on manufacturers, headed by Senator Reed, democrat of Missouri. The committee's plans include inquiry into supplies, distribution and prices. Pending congressional action, assistance of the state department in the paper situation was invoked in connection with efforts to secure removal of restrictions on export from Canada of raw materials.

DADDY'S EVENING FAIRY TALE



GOOD SNAKES.

"There are lots of us who are good, though some folks find it hard to believe," said the grass snake.

"Yes, that is so," said the ring-neck snake.

"Now I feed on all sorts of bad bugs and insects and keep them from hurting the grass and the country."

"And I know that you do the same. And the black snake even does a great deal of work. Even the rattlesnake who is a bad fellow does some good in the world by destroying rats which aren't wanted around."

"The copperhead snake destroys bad insects. Garter snakes keep gardens and fields free from slugs and so do the milk snakes or adders. There is the gopher snake who destroys the gophers who would otherwise hurt the crops out in California. In Australia, a country far away, the snakes do a good work to keep bad insects out of the way—they get them out of the way and keep them out of the way by eating them, ha, ha! A good way to do it, eh?"

"An excellent way," hissed ring-neck snake who had been listening while the grass snake had been talking.

"In the state of Connecticut many of our family ate moles which wanted to destroy the lawns. We have the kind of jaws which get our prey easily and hold them fast, even prey which is bigger than we are. We have eyes without lids and we can look at a creature so that it doesn't know what to do. It sees us staring at it and watches us for we stare in such a steady way, and then—we can get it, because we know how to use our eyes in that way."

"We have inside and not outside ears," said the grass snake. "But we really have little use for ears as we can hear by our tongues, something very few, if any, creatures can. We use our tongues as feelers. Truly they are of great value to us. We sleep with our eyes open, not with one eye open, but with both eyes open."

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A Terribly Dangerous Fellow.

Our eyes are covered by a little filmy covering which we shed each time we get a new skin.

"It's a pity," said the ring snake, "that more folks don't know about us. We are so very, very interesting, I think."

"So do I," said the grass snake. "How about children?"

"What do you mean, how about children?" asked the ring snake.

"Do they take an interest in us?" asked the grass snake.

"I believe many of them do," said the ring snake. "I believe so."

"That is very good," said the grass snake. "Very good indeed. That cheers me immensely."

"The poisonous snakes whose poison is in their little glands in their mouths keep their fangs back in their jaws when their mouths are shut, but when they are open, out come the fangs."

"That's so," agreed the grass snake.

"And," said the ring snake, "there are about a thousand different kinds of snakes in the world. Some folks think there are only a dozen or so different species. But there are lots."

"Of course the snakes that would coil around a person and crush him to death or who would poison a person even if they possess other good qualities—well, I can see how such snakes can be thoroughly disliked and not wanted around."

"But there are very few snakes in this country which are poisonous—only a few. Many of the garter snakes in the zoo like to be petted and stroked and spoken kindly to, and another strange thing about the garter snakes is that they won't go to sleep for the winter if they can still find mushrooms—so that their winter bed time is apt to be very much later than that of other snakes."

"An adder snake will be mild often when a person pays no attention to his hissing and his squirming. A mountain pilot snake will follow a running person, but won't fight if the person wants to stop to fight."

"The worst snake of all here in this country I've heard is the old diamond back—a terribly dangerous fellow."

"But still," said the grass snake, "the ones who are not poisonous are many more than the ones who are poisonous—in this country, at any rate—and considering the amount of good they do for the farmer and the gardener I think there should be something said about good snakes."

So it is.

"What is the center of gravity?"

"The letter 'V.'"

FEED CONTAINING PROPER INGREDIENTS TENDS TO STIMULATE MILK PRODUCTION



Take Advantage of Their Maternal Tendencies to Make Them Profitable Producers.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

A dairy cow's yearly production depends largely upon the conditions of flesh at calving time and upon the feed and care she receives during the first six weeks after freshening.

The dry period before freshening gives the cow a rest and tones her up. When a cow gives birth to her calf, it is nature's plan for her to produce enough milk to feed her offspring. Man has taken advantage of nature's plan and by scientific feeding and care has lengthened the milk-producing period, say dairy specialists from the United States department of agriculture.

Stimulate Milk Production.

The dairyman has found by experience that an abundance of feed containing the proper ingredients tends to stimulate milk production. He feeds protein, because protein is the principal constituent in the casein in milk, and a cow cannot produce a large amount of milk without a large supply of the right kind of feed. Protein also makes muscle and supplies other needs of the body. Another important reason for feeding protein feeds is that the nitrogen in protein feeds seems to stimulate the milk-secreting glands to great activity when fed liberally during the first few weeks after freshening.

Production a Guide for Feeding.

In order to take advantage of this impulse to produce more milk, the practical dairyman weighs the grain fed to each fresh cow daily, and also weighs the milk she gives. He starts the fresh cow by feeding five pounds daily of a laxative grain ration. He increases the grain ration one-half pound one day and compares it with the pounds of milk produced during the next two days. If the increased amount of grain has resulted in a corresponding increase in milk, the

grain is again increased on the next day. This process is continued, and the grain increased every second or third day, as long as the cow continues to make a profitable increase in quantity of milk produced. The laxative feeds are gradually taken out of the ration after a few days and grains substituted, according to the need and economy of the ration.

This method of working the fresh cow up to give a larger quantity of milk may take from two to four weeks. The digestive and milk secreting systems of some cows respond to increased feed more slowly than others. Best results cannot be obtained by attempting to bring a cow into her full milk flow during the first week following freshening. Even though the fresh cow does not go off her feed her digestive system may be overtaxed and the keen edge worn off her appetite so her milk flow is not brought up to its maximum.

Checking Up Economy of Production.

When milking the fresh cow, the dairyman continues to milk a little longer than usual in order to stimulate the milk-secreting glands to produce more milk. This is simply an imitation of the calf's efforts to satisfy its appetite and results in maintaining the flow of milk over a relatively long period.

It is the business of every dairyman to find the maximum economical productive capacity of each cow in his herd as she freshens. This is done by the method described. If it is found the maximum economical production of a fresh sow is over 50 pounds daily, it will not be difficult to keep her producing at a 25 or 30 pound clip for the next six months or even longer. But it is practically impossible to stimulate her to maximum economical production if she is allowed to produce under her capacity during the first 30 days of the lactation period.

or from farmers indicate a widespread disposition to cut down plantings so that the work of cultivating can be attended to by the farmer himself or by members of his family. The assertion that farmers cannot pay the high wages demanded in competition with other industries and make a profit on their products is frequently made. Many farmers, also, declare it is unfair to them to be under the necessity of working ten, twelve or more hours a day when the tendency in other industries is toward a shorter working day, and a decreased output.

HOME CONSUMPTION OF PORK

Average for Each Farm Family Is Over 500 Pounds—Utilize Waste From Kitchen.

Nearly two-thirds of the meat eaten on the farm is pork, the average farm consumption of pork being over 500 pounds per family. The greater portion of the pork products used by farmers is produced on the home farm. Swine specialists of the United States department of agriculture call attention to the fact that a small number of pigs can be raised cheaply. Kitchen and garden wastes, and sometimes dairy by-products, are available for feed. The farmer usually kills the hogs and dresses them on his own place. The hogs furnish a good variety of meat and also lard. The smokehouse, a common improvement on the farm, provides a convenient way for curing pork.

LIVE STOCK NOTES

Exercise is essential for swine.

Fall litters generally develop more runts than spring litters.

The low prices of horses has influenced the less progressive to stick to the old methods.

Disinfect swine lots and houses every week or so with coal-tar dips or crude oil to prevent epidemics of disease.

Extensive tests at the Wisconsin station indicate that whey is worth about half as much as skim milk for hog feeding.

Along with this "better sire" movement let us keep in mind something which is almost as essential and that is better feeding.

HIGH WAGES MENACE PRODUCTION OF FOOD

People Also Moving From Farms to Big Cities.

Increased Number of Men and Boys Leave Farming to Engage in Other Industries—Farmers Cutting Down Plantings.

Serious risk of reduced food production this year because of high wages demanded by farm laborers, high cost of farm equipment and supplies, and because of pronounced movements of people from the farms to the cities is indicated by reports and letters that are reaching the United States department of agriculture from many sections of the country.

The most definite of these reports comes from New York state, where records of the population on 3,775 representative farms on February 1 this year and February 1 a year ago were made by federal and state workers. It was disclosed that during the past year the number of people on these farms decreased nearly 3 per cent and the number of hired men decreased more than 17 per cent. If the same ratio holds for all farms in the State about 35,000 men and boys left farming to go into other industries, while only about 11,000 have changed from other industries to farming. This is a more rapid movement from the farms to other industries than took place in the early part of the war.

The same conditions in varying degrees exist in all sections, according to the federal bureau of crop estimates, although they are not so acute farther from industrial centers.

Another New York report, applicable in some degree in every part of the country, is that farm wages this year will average 14 per cent higher than they were in 1919, although in 1919 they were 80 per cent higher than they were at the beginning of the war. Estimates from 350 farmers in all parts of New York state indicate that experienced farm help, hired by the month, will be paid this year about \$52 a month and board, as compared with \$45.50 last year. Experienced married men, not boarded but provided with a house and farm products, are expected to receive on the average about \$68.50 a month in cash as compared with \$60 last year. Numerous letters to the department of agriculture from its field workers